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- THE -  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
- OF -  
ASHBY WOULD'S.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1920.

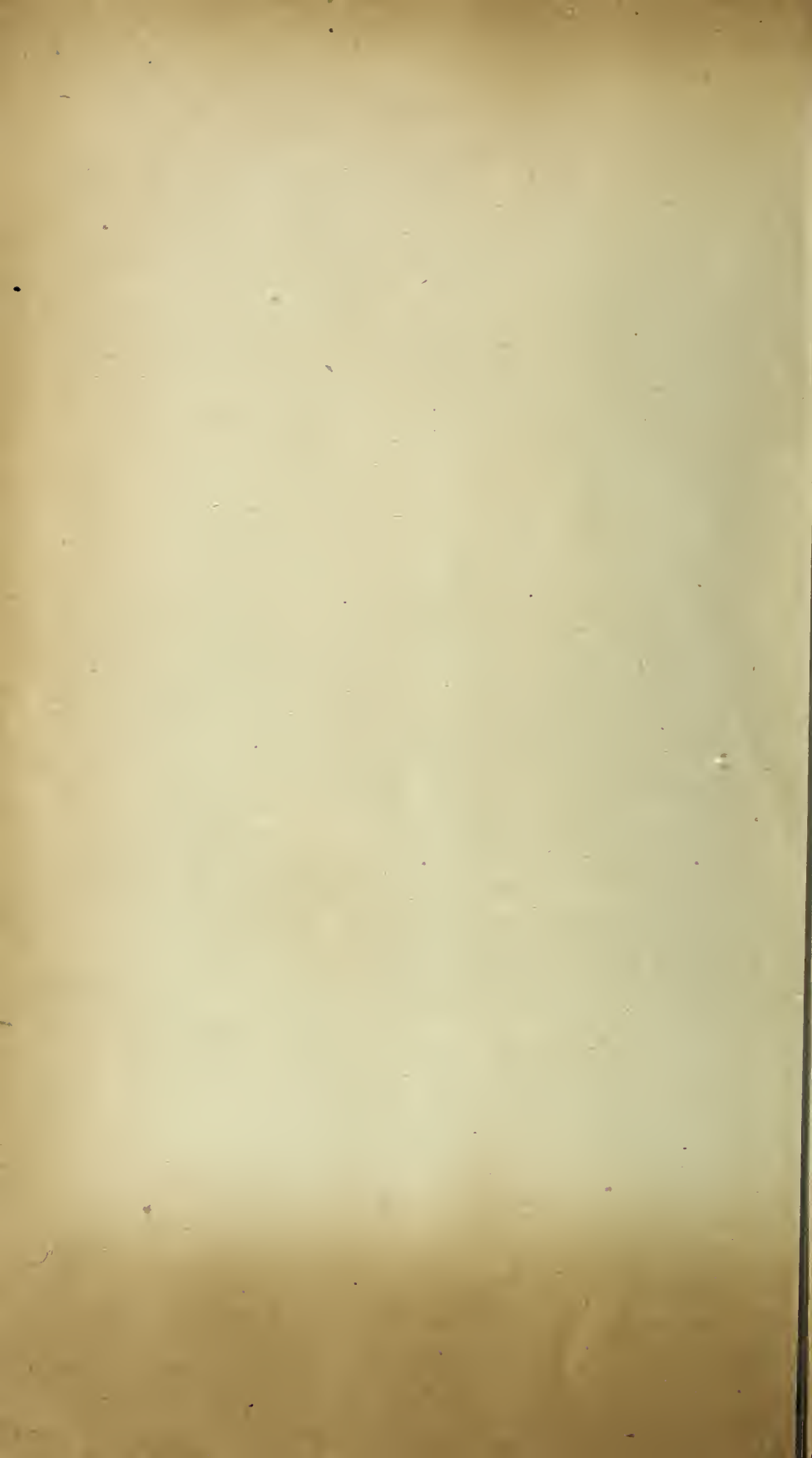
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RODERIC LOGAN, M.R.C.S., ENG.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SEPTEMBER, 1921.  
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH :  
C. J. LEWIS, PRINTER, MARKET STREET.




ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH,

*September, 1921.*

*To the Urban District Council of Ashby Woulds.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report upon the  
Sanitary state of your District for the year 1920.



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## ASHBY WOULD'S URBAN DISTRICT.

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# ANNUAL REPORT.

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### GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Elevation of District from 285 to 437 O.D.

GEOLOGY—Coal Measures, Pottery and Brick Clay.

AREA—Land, 1939 Acres. Water, 39 Acres. Total, 1978 acres.

	Census, 1901.	Census, 1911.	Estimated, 1920.
Population ...	2799	2783	3086
Inhabited Houses	529	577	600

New Houses erected during the year—1.

Rateable Value, £16,978. Assessable Value, £13,248.

General District Rate, 3/- in the £.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.	General Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.
26'25	8'42	49
Epidemic Diseases Death Rate.	Phthisis Death Rate.	
0'65	0'97	

- Occupations. Coal Mining, Pottery and Agriculture are the chief industries.
- Poor Relief. Burton, Derby and Leicester Infirmaries are all supplied with cases from the District.
- Water Supply. Practically the whole District is supplied by the Ashby and Swadlincote Water Company from their Waterworks on the Trent watershed at Milton. The water is good, not plumbo-solvent, and artificially softened to some extent.
- Rivers and Streams. There is no pollution of water-courses of any consequence in the district.
- Sewers and Drains. The Outfall Works at Occupation Road receive the sewage of Albert Village and Occupation Road. They consist of two precipitation tanks and two percolating filters. They are sufficient for present purposes, but will require extension when all privy middens are converted to w.c.'s.

#### SWAIN'S PARK.

There is a precipitation tank and filter bed here, but subsidence has occurred and caused blocking of the effluent outflow which ponds up and causes a nuisance. This should be dealt with as soon as possible.

#### RAWDON TERRACE.

This sewage is discharged into a small stream which loses itself in marshy land. There is no nuisance caused.

#### STONE ROWS.

These houses and the School were connected up to the Donisthorpe Lane Outfall Works, but subsidence has broken the sewer under the canal. The sewage has therefore been diverted and at present discharges into the stream ; but a scheme is in preparation to deal with it on land on the South side of the Measham and Moira Road.

### SPRING COTTAGE.

The sewage is collected in tanks near the railway which discharge the effluent through a culvert under the canal and thence to a stream which finally reaches Barratt Pool. No nuisance is caused as the amount of sewage is small, and it is slop water only.

The main part of the district is sewered to the Donisthorpe Lane Outfall Works, which have been greatly enlarged to deal with the new houses built by the Colliery Company, and the 82 new houses under construction by your authority. There are four precipitating tanks, four percolating filters, duplicate detritus tanks and screening chambers, three sludge beds and one humus tank for the effluent.

Bath Lane, Cobb Row and Newfields are being connected up with this outfall. Main Street, Peter Street, and Edward Street in Albert Village, have been connected up to the Occupation Road Outfall.

Closet Accommoda- tion.	Privy Middens.	Pail Closets.	W.Cs.	Slop Water C.
	120	60	150	—

Twelve houses have been converted from Privy Middens to W.Cs., or from Pail Closets to W.Cs.

The greater portion of the district still uses the Privy Midden. About 150 W.Cs. are, however, now in use, and the extension of the W.C. system is urgently necessary in view of its greater sanitary value. There is now ample water supply and ample sewage disposal works to deal with W.Cs. throughout Moira and Donisthorpe Lane. 12 Houses have been converted from P.M. to W.C.

Scavenging. - This has been much more satisfactory. The Sanitary Inspector carries on the scavenging work with your Council's workmen, the necessary carts and horses being hired, in place of the old system of letting out the scavenging to private contractors. The night-soil is disposed on the land, and the ashes to various tips. The cost of scavenging the district is £600 per annum approximately.

Sanitary  
Inspection.      The Inspector's Report is printed at the end of this Report.

There are two slaughter-houses in use, one in Albert Village, and one recently opened in Moira. They are both satisfactory.

The Regulations of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885-1889, have been adopted, and there is regular Veterinary Inspection.

A special investigation of the housing of the working classes was made and Report issued by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health at the special request of your Council.

There are no lodging-houses, under-ground bake-houses or offensive trades in the district.

No sample of water has been sent for analysis this year.

Food.  
Milk Supply.      There are 19 cowkeepers on the Register, and about 80 cows are kept. There are no milksellers who are not cowkeepers. The milk produced is almost entirely consumed in the district and very little is imported into the district. No case of tuberculous udders has been reported to me. The cubic space per cow in the sheds average about 400 cubic feet. This is much too little, 600 being the minimum desirable. 38 inspections have been made, and 3 premises required cleansing. 11 of the cowkeepers' premises are supplied from wells and the rest from the mains. 9 of the milk-sellers are also makers of butter.

Other Foods.      Four inspections of premises have been made. No unsound food has been found. The condition of the bakehouses is satisfactory, also of the slaughter-houses. There are no special arrangements made for the inspection of meat, but inspection of the premises is usually undertaken at killing time when the carcasses are also inspected. No case of tuberculosis in meat has been found.



#### Housing.

The number of dwelling houses of all classes in the district is about 600, of which 560 are working-class dwelling houses. A marked characteristic of the latter class is the bad state of repair, especially in Albert Village, Stone Rows, Swain's Park and Spring Cottage. This is partly owing to subsidence caused by colliery and clay workings, but mainly to neglect of proper upkeep of the structure by owners. This is now being remedied, but a great deal is still required to be done.

Bad provision for storage of food is frequently to be found, and dampness in living and bedrooms, due either to faulty construction (no damp course) or faulty state of repair, is too common.

22 houses are overcrowded, and this condition is increasing owing to the present shortage of houses and the increasing number of young married folk.

24 houses are unfit for habitation and 8 others not reasonably fit. As soon as the new houses in course of construction by your Authority are completed, the above 32 houses can be dealt with under Closing Orders.

Peter Street, Albert Village, has been scheduled as an unhealthy area to be dealt with when the local circumstances permit.

82 new houses are being erected under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919. 74 of these are on the Whitehouses site, Moira, and 8 in Occupation Road, Albert Village.

#### Factories and Workshops.

The sanitary arrangements are satisfactory. 4 have been found defective and have been remedied after issue of notice. The outworkers are all engaged in knitting socks. No case of infectious disease has been notified in homes of outworkers.

The sanitary administration of the district is carried out by the Medical Officer, the Sanitary Inspector, who is the officer appointed under the Housing and Town Planning Act, and the Veterinary Inspector.

Tuberculosis.

The arrangements of the County Council for the treatment of persons suffering from this disease include 50 beds at Mowsley Sanatorium, 22 beds at Hinckley Dispensary, and 8 at Coalville Dispensary.

The two Dispensaries receive out-patients as well, and a Sub-Dispensary is established at Melton Mowbray and Loughborough.

Cases from this district are dealt with either at Mowsley Sanatorium or Coalville Dispensary. Tuberculin (out-patient) treatment is carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer only, Tuberculin not being supplied to Medical Practitioners for use in patients' own homes. Shelters are at present provided in suitable cases for insured persons, and when the County Council Scheme is in operation, will be available for dependents and other non-insured cases. There is a Certificated Nurse acting as Health Visitor for this district. All cases are visited by her and a report is received by me in each case from her. Each case is, in addition, visited by me, and any insanitary or defective housing conditions reported by me to the Sanitary Inspector.

The Notification of Births is in force.

The compulsory notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum by both Medical Men and Midwives is in force.

I beg to recommend to your particular attention the provision of better closet accommodation for Albert Village, and the urgent necessity for ash vaults to privy middens being closed so as to prevent dissemination of dust in dry weather.

Infectious  
Diseases.

4 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified.

2 cases of Erysipelas.

1 case of Puerperal Fever.

There was an outbreak of Diphtheria in January which continued till March in spite of every effort to limit its spread. Its character was generally mild, but

two deaths occurred. 28 cases were notified and Antitoxin supplied in all cases. It was entirely limited to children under 16, and to the district of Albert Village and Occupation Road. I visited and inspected the School and classes assembled. I reported to the County Medical Officer, and secured Dr. Fairer's assistance in taking swabs and inspecting the throats of the school children. Six children were found to have Diphtheroid Bacilli in the throat—so-called "carriers"—in school, and these were treated with Antiseptic gargles and excluded from school. The six "carriers" were again examined a month later and then found to be free from infective organisms.

36 swabs in all were examined.

The early use of Antitoxin by all the Medical Men concerned in this epidemic undoubtedly limited the number of deaths and the spread of infection over a longer period. The assistance of Dr. Fairer and the County Medical Staff was of the greatest value, especially in detecting the "carriers," which could only be effected by Bacteriological Examination. This shows the value of the County Laboratory in epidemic outbreaks. It may be of interest to your Authority to know that the Laboratory Staff conducted 2,449 investigations in 1920 for the whole County.

Two cases only of Tuberculosis were notified: one of the lungs and one of glands. One specimen of sputum was sent to the County Laboratory and reported negative.

In April an Inquiry was held by His Majesty's Inspector, F. J. Willis, Esq., into the application by your Council for a loan of £4,800 for Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Moira, namely, the Extension of the Outfall Works at Donisthorpe Lane and this work is now under construction.

Schools.

I have inspected both Schools during the year. In the Moira School the asphalted playground required repair, the ceiling and plaster of the cloakroom was defective. The walls of the classrooms generally need re-colouring, and the heating of the Infants' Schoolroom is not sufficient. In January the maximum temperature was 50° only. The teachers' room is damp in winter.

In conclusion I beg to congratulate your Council upon the provision for 82 new houses as a first step in dealing with the very serious problem of the housing of the working classes in this district. Also the marked improvement in scavenging since this work has been undertaken by your Authority.

The most urgent need of the district now is the repair of dwellings, provision of proper storage for food in houses, and repairs to P.Ms. and ashpits.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RODERIC LOGAN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

## Sanitary Inspector's Report.

### Year 1920. Ashby Woulds Urban District.

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Total number of complaints received during the year, 26.

„ „ „ inspections made for all purposes, 132.

„ „ „ notices served, 82. Informal, 70. Statutory, 12.

„ „ „ summonses issued, Nil.

„ „ „ convictions obtained, Nil.

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Insanitary Houses (Public Health Act, 1875) No. inspected, 75.  
No. cleansed, 61.

Smoke nuisances: No. of Observations, Nil. Nuisances abated, Nil.

Overcrowding: No. of houses inspected, 22. Nuisances abated, 3.

Offensive accumulations: No. inspected, 6. Nuisances abated, 6.

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#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximate No. in District: (1) Privies, 120. (2) Pail Closets, 60.  
(3) Water closets, 100.

Privies (middens) No. of new provided, Nil. No. repaired, 4.

No. converted to (a) pails, 3; (b) W.Cs., 6.

Pails or earth closets—No. of new provided, Nil.

No. converted to W.Cs., Nil.

Water closets—No. of new provided, 2.

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#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drains, drain traps, etc.—No. inspected, 36. Nuisances abated, 8.

Cesspools.—No. repaired, cleansed, repaired, etc., 18.

No. abolished and drains connected to sewer, 6.

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#### SCAVENGING.

How is refuse disposed of? Collected periodically and carted to tips and on to land.

Ashpits—No. of new provided, Nil. No. converted to ashbins, 5.

Ashbins—No. of new provided, 4.

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#### WATER SUPPLY.

No. of samples taken for analysis, Nil. No. condemned, Nil.

Wells—No. closed, Nil. No. cleansed, repaired, etc., Nil.

No. of instances where public supply was instituted for the well, Nil.

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#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Houses—No. inspected, 12. No. of inspections, 32.

No. disinfected (a) Houses, 12; (b) Schoolrooms, Nil.

Is there a steam disinfecter available? No.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.	No. in District	No. Registered	No. of Inspections made	No. of Contraven- tions found	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	—	—	—	Good
Canal Boats ... ..	Not a re gistration Dis trict	—	30	2	
Offensive Trades ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	
Other ... ..	—	—	—	—	

#### FOOD SUPPLY :

Diseases : No. of seizures, None. No. of summonses issued, None.  
 No. of convictions obtained, —  
 No. of parcels surrendered, None.

In 1914. In Jan. 1920. In Dec. 1920.

No. of carcasses or parts of carcasses }  
 condemned for Tuberculosis } — — —

#### Slaughter Houses:

No. in District (Rural) — — —  
 No. registered (Urban) — — 2  
 No. licensed (Urban) — — 1

General condition of slaughter houses, Good.

No. of inspections of premises, 10.

No. of contravention of bye-laws (Urban), Nil.

Has public abattoir been established? If not, what are existing  
 arrangements for inspection of meat at time of slaughter? No.

#### MILK SUPPLY (Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order 1885-1889).

Have regulations been adopted? Yes.

Has Vet. Inspector been appointed? Yes.

Dairymen—No. of milksellers (registered) } 19 No. of inspections made } 38  
 " " {cowkeepers} " " " }  
 " " (purveyors only), Nil. " " " —

Premises—No. of inspections made, 38.

No. of contraventions found, 3.

No. found to require (a) cleansing, 3.

(b) Structural or sanitary improvements, Nil.

Legal proceedings—No. of summonses issued, Nil.

No. of convictions obtained, Nil.

#### FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Workshops—No. on register (to include bakehouses), 7.

No. of nuisances abated, None.

Bakehouses—No. on register, 3.

No. of nuisances abated, None.

Homework—No. of outworkers, 6.

Legal proceedings—No. of summonses issued, Nil.

No. of convictions obtained, Nil.

#### ADOPTIVE ACTS:

Acts adopted during the year.—None.



## BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Adopted or revised during the year.—None.

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## SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS, ETC.

Please state if there have been any special investigations or reports made during the year.—Housing Report by Ministry of Health Inspector, March, 1920.

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# Housing Conditions.

## STATISTICS.

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1920

### 1.—General.

1. Estimated population.—3100.
2. General death-rate.—8·42.
3. Death-rate from Tuberculosis—0·97.
4. Infantile mortality—49.
5. No. of dwelling-houses of all classes.—600.
6. No. of working-class dwelling-houses.—560
7. No. of new working-class houses erected.—1.

### 2.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

#### I.—INSPECTION.

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..   | 46 |
| 2. No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910  | 72 |
| 3. No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation  | 24 |
| 4. No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... .. | 8  |

#### II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .. ... Nil,

### III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

- A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919:—
- (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. 18
  - (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—
    - (a) by owners ... .. 10
    - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... None.
  - (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... .. None.
- B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
- (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 14
  - (2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—
    - (a) by owners ... .. 8
    - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... None.
- C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 ... ..
- (1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... .. None.
  - (2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. None.
  - (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... .. None.
  - (4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. None.
  - (5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. None.

### 3.—Unhealthy Areas.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a) Part I. or (b) Part II. of the Act, 1890:—

- (1) Name of area.—Peter Street.
- (2) Acreage ... ..
- (3) No. of working-class houses in area ... ..
- (4) No. of working-class persons to be displaced .. ..
- (5) No. of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 ... ..
- (6) Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer.—The Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances.

G. E. MARLOW,

*Inspector of Nuisances.*





